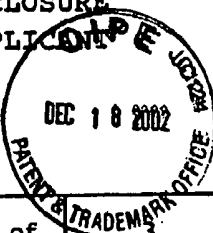


Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 			Application Number	(Div. of S.N. 09/598,605) 09/974511	
			Filing Date	Concomitantly Herewith	
			First Named Inventor	Masahiro KAWAKAMI	
			Group Art Unit	1742	
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	00447CD/HG

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
mq		4,295,882		Arima et al.	10-20-1981	
mq		4,842,642		Bowman	06-27-1989	

RECEIVED
DEC 24 2003
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initials	Cite No.	Offc.	Document Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T
mq		JP	2-73911		Nippon Steel Corp.	03-13-1990		*
mq		JP	4-83815		Nippon Steel Corp.	03-17-1992		*
mq		JP	49-93209		K.K. Juuzen Shoukai	09-05-1974		*
ma		JP	9-217105		Sumitomo Metal Ind.	08-19-1997		*
ma		WIPO	96/08328		Aikoh Co., Ltd.	03-21-1996		*
ma		JP	9-143525		Kawasaki Steel Corp.	06-03-1997		*
mq		JP	56-115670		Hitachi, Ltd.	09-10-1981		*
ma		JP	1-152211		Kawasaki Heavy Ind.	06-14-1989		*

Examiner Signature

Melvyn Andrews

Date Considered

3-4-03

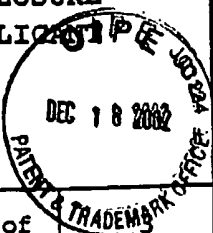
* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.1). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated in the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: OCTOBER 10, 2001

*ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABSTRACT OF RECORD

1 of 3

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 			Application Number	(Div. of S.N. 09/598,605) 09/974511
			Filing Date	Concomitantly Herewith
			First Named Inventor	Masahiro KAWAKAMI
			Group Art Unit	
			Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	Attorney Docket Number	00447CD/HG

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
						RECEIVED DEC 24 2003 TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initials	Cite No.	offc.	Document Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T*
ma		JP	9-256009		Kawasaki Steel Corp.	09-30-1997		*
ma		JP	7-316618		NKK CORP.	12-05-1995		*
ma		JP	2-232312		Kawasaki Steel Corp.	09-14-1990		*
ma		JP	1-147012		Sumitomo Metal Ind.	06-08-1989		*
ma		JP	6-271919		Nippon Steel Corp.	09-27-1994		*
ma		JP	9-227919		Kawasaki Steel Corp.	09-02-1997		*
Examiner Signature		Melvyn Andrews			Date Considered	3-4-03		

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

* Unique citation designation number. * See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. * Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). * For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. * Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. * Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: OCTOBER 10, 2001

*ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABSTRACT OF RECORD

2 of 3

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	(Div. of S.N. 09/998,605) 09/974 51	
		Filing Date	Concomitantly Herewith	
		First Named Inventor	Masahiro KAWAKAMI	
		Group Art Unit		
		Examiner Name		
Sheet	3	3	Attorney Docket Number	00447CD/HG

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article, title of item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ¹
ma		Report of National Research Institute of Metals, Science and Technology Agency, Vol. 8, pp. 83-99 (1987).	
mq		Amit Ganguly and Ken J. Reid, "Carbon Utilization in Direct Smelting Systems", <u>Steel Research</u> , 63, 281-290 (1992).	
ma		"Recent tendencies of new iron sources", ("Recent Trends of New Iron Production Process") by Iron Making Process Forum of the Iron and Steel Institute of Japan, pages 42 to 51 (September 1996).	
mq		"Studies on iron making technique of directly using coal" ("Direct Iron Ore melting Reduction Process") by THE JAPAN IRON AND STEEL FEDERATION (June 1996).	
mq		"The 165 th and 166 th Nishiyama Commemorative lecture", pages 149 to 175 (September and October 1997).	
ma		"The 165 th and 166 th Nishiyama Commemorative Lecture", pages 117 to 147 (September and October 1997).	
mq		Rene Munnix, Jean Borlee, Didier Steyls and Mario Economopoulos, "Comet - A New Coal Based Process for the Production of DRI", <u>MPT International</u> , pages 50 to 61, February 1997.	
mq		"Current Advances in Material and Processes", Report of the ISIJ Meeting, The Iron and Steel Institute of Japan, CAMP - ISIJ Vol. 10, (September 1997), pages 723 to 726.	
Examiner Signature	Melvyn Andrews		Date Considered
			3-4-03

RECEIVED
DEC 24 2003
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
 1 Unique citation designation number. Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: **OCTOBER 10, 2001**

3 of 3